

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 15.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1882.

FIVE DOLLARS
PER QUARTER.

Insurances.

LE CERCLE-TRANSPORTS.
SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME D'ASSURANCE
MARITIME MARSEILLE.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED 15,000,000 Francs.
CAPITAL PAID-UP 3,750,000 Francs.

The Undersigned, having been appointed
AGENTS of the above Company, are prepared to
GRANT POLICIES on MARINE RISKS to all
parts of the World.

ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co.
Hongkong, 15th June, 1881. [4]

**YANGTSE INSURANCE
ASSOCIATION.**

CAPITAL (Fully Paid-up) Tls. 420,000.00
PERMANENT RESERVE Tls. 230,000.00
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND Tls. 288,936.17

TOTAL CAPITAL and
ACCUMULATIONS, and
April, 1881, Tls. 938,936.17

DIRECTORS.
F. B. FORBES, Esq., Chairman.
M. W. BOND, Esq., Wm. MEYERHOF, Esq.,
J. H. PINCKNEY, Esq., F. D. HITCH, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE—SINGAPORE.
Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., secretaries.

LONDON BRANCH.
Messrs. BARKER BROTHERS & Co.
Bankers.

RICHARD BLACKWELL, Esq., Agent.
68 and 69, Cornhill, E.C.

POLICES granted on MARINE RISKS to all
parts of the World.

Subject to a charge of 12 per cent. for Interest
on shareholders' Capital, all the PROFITS of the
UNDERWRITING BUSINESS are annually dis-
tributed among all Contributors of Business in
proportion to the premia paid by them.

RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 23rd January, 1882. [53]

NOTICE.

**THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY,
LIMITED.**

(CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED) \$1,000,000.

The above Company is prepared to accept
MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES on GOODS
&c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world
payable at any of its Agencies.

WOO LIN YUEN,
Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE,
No. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1882. [81]

Entimations.

TO LET.

TWO ROOMS suitable for an Office in the
Premises No. 15, WELLINGTON-STREET.
Possession on 1st January, 1882.

Apply to
DR SOUZA & Co.
Hongkong, 14th November, 1881. [15]

TO LET.

A LARGE GRANITE GODOWN, in "BLUE
BUILDINGS," Praya East, with immediate
possession.

Apply to
J. M. GUEDES.
33, WELLINGTON-STREET.
Hongkong, 19th January, 1882. [49]

TO LET.

NO. 4, OLD BAILEY STREET.
"KURRAHJEAN," No. 10, ALBANY
ROAD.

OFFICES IN NO. 13, QUEEN'S ROAD
CENTRAL.

Apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
Hongkong, 28th January, 1882. [74]

HONGKONG FLOWER SHOW.

THE TENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION
will be held in the BOTANIC GARDENS on
TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, the 14th and 15th
February.

A POULTRY SHOW will be held in connection
with FLOWER SHOW.

The Gates will be opened at Two P.M. on
each day.

Admission:—First Day, \$1; Second Day,
20 Cents.

Intending Exhibitors are particularly requested
to send POT PLANTS and POULTRY early on the
13th instant, and VEGETABLES and CUT FLOWERS
as early as possible on the morning of the 14th
instant; and also to give at least THREE DAYS'
NOTICE of the classes in which they intend to
exhibit.

Poultry to be attended to during their stay in
the Show by Exhibitor's Assistants.

Schedules of Rules and Prizes to be had from
the Hon. Secretary.

Tickets may be obtained from Messrs. LANE,
CRAWFORD & Co., or Payment may be made at
the Gates.

CHARLES FORD,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1882. [80]

WANTED, EMPLOYMENT by the Ad-
vertiser as a General Assistant in a
Mercantile Office; either in Hongkong or Shang-
hai. The Advertiser understands BOOKKEEPING,
INSURANCE, and SHIPPING BUSINESS. Salary
Moderate.

X. Y. Z.,
Office of this Paper.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1882. [66]

TRAMWAYS.

A BARGAIN—JUST RECEIVED

CLARKE'S "TRAMWAYS"—their Construc-
tion and Working. "SCOURRY'S Esti-
mating"—26 Detailed Plans and Estimates of
various Structures of Brick, Stone, Wood, and
Iron, with Building Data, and other useful
information, from Indian practice. "VINCENT'S
Steam Tramway's for India." The Lot, \$11.

KELLY & WALSH,
Queen's Road.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1882. [42]

For Sale.

H. FOURNIER & CO.

**HAVE FOR SALE, JUST RECEIVED EX
"PEHO,"**

**A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF
FANCY GOODS.**

FANCY PLAYING CARDS.

CRACKERS.

BONBONS (Assorted).

CHOCOLATE CREAM.

CHOCOLATE MENIER.

FIGS.

MALAGA RAISINS.

TABLE PLUMS.

FRUITS IN JUICE (Assorted).

CONFITURES DE ST. JAMES

(in Bottles and Tins).

SYRUPS (Assorted).

HUNTLY and PALMER'S BISCUITS.

ALMONDS and NUTS.

VANILLA.

PATE DE FOIE GRAS.

NOIX DE VEAU TRUFFEE (in Tins).

COTELETTE DE VEAU (in Tins).

VEAU ROTI (in Tins).

RIS DE VEAU (in Tins).

FRICANDAU (Assorted).

TRUFFES.

VEGETABLES (Assorted).

ANCHOVIES in Oil.

CAVIAR.

SARDINES in Lemon Juice.

SARDINES in Tomatoes.

SARDINES in Oil.

FRENCH and ENGLISH MUSTARD.

SAUSAGES (Assorted).

LIONS SAUSAGES.

FRENCH & SPANISH OLIVES.

**FRENCH ISIGNY BUTTER (in 1 and
2 lbs. Tins).**

**MACCARONI (Assorted) Paste for
Soups, Letters, stars, &c.**

TAPIOCA.

FINE-GROUND MOCHA COFFEE.

C H E E S E.

GRUYERE.

ROQUEFORT.

DUTCH.

CALIFORNIA.

CREAM.

**FRENCH TOBACCO AND
CIGARETTES.**

ASSORTED PERFUMERY

FROM

PIRELLA and PIVERT OF PARIS.

A large quantity of

FRENCH MINERAL WATERS

in Pints of 100 bottles per Case.

CORK STOPPERS,

for Soda and other Bottles.

C L A R E T S

In Bottles and Wood.

CHATEAU LAROSE.

CHATEAU LAFFITTE.

CHATEAU MARGAUX.

ST. EMILION.

MEDOC.

W I N E S.

SAUTERNE.

PORTO.

SHERRY.

MARSALA.

BRANDY.

FRENCH COGNAC.

ABSINTHE.

L I Q U E U R S.

CHARTREUSE (Pints and Quarts).

BENEDICTINE (Pints and Quarts).

MARASCHINO.

CURACAO.

ANISETTE (Marie Brigard).

ANGOSTURA BITTERS.

DOKE'S BITTERS.

KIRSCHWASSER.

PEPPERMINT.

VERMOUTH (Nolly Prat).

VERMOUTH (Turino).

FANCY SILK UMBRELLAS.

And a VARIETY of OTHER GOODS.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1881. [17]

Intimations.

SAYLE & CO.'S SHOWROOMS.

SAYLE & CO.

**BEG TO ANNOUNCE THAT THEY INTEND HAVING
GREAT CLEARANCE SALE**

DURING

THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.

ALL GOODS MARKED IN PLAIN FIGURES AT REDUCED PRICES.

TOYS WILL BE SOLD AT HALF-PRICE.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, January 30th, 1882. [79]

HONGKONG RACES—HONGKONG RACES.

T. N. DRISCOLL,

TAILOR, HOSIER, HATTER, AND GENERAL OUTFITTER.

No. 6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

By Special Appointment to H.E. the GOVERNOR of HONGKONG

and to

H.H. the GRAND DUKE ALEXIS of RUSSIA.

Is now showing, EX "GLENKROY,"

A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF BLACK and BLUE FRENCH COATINGS.

A CHOICE LOT OF SUITINGS and TROWSERINGS, in FRENCH,

WEST of ENGLAND, SCOTCH, CHEVOT, and SAXONY TWEEDS.

WHITE, CASSIMERES, for RACING BREECHES.

BEDFORD and WORSTED CORDS.

DRAB SHELL and BLACK SILK HATS.

Light MELTONS, for OVERCOATS.

RACING SCARVES, &c., &c., &c. [14]

ED. CHASTEL & CO.,

WINE MERCHANTS,

MARINE HOUSE, 15, QUEEN'S ROAD.

HAVE for sale, ex recent arrivals, Light Breakfast CLARETS in Quarts and Pints. After Dinner

CLARETS in Quarts and Pints.

CHATEAU LAFITE, MARGAUX, LAROSE, LEOVILLE CLOS DE

MAURIN, &c., &c.

DE ST. MARCEAUX & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE in Quarts, Pints and Half-Pints.

CLARET in WOOD.

CHARTREUSE, CURACAO, MARASCHINO.

PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION. [27]

KELLY & WALSH'S

NEW AND POPULAR FRENCH NOVELS.

Le Fils d'Antony Alex. Bouvier.

L'Affaire Matapan Fortune de Boisgobey.

Le Manoir des Cédibataires M. Maryan.

La Fille de Nana Alfred Assolant.

Le Roman d'un Spahi Pierre Loti.

La Femme de l'Inde Sheher-Masoch.

Le Plan d'Hélène Adolphe Racot.

La Séduction de Javine L. Stephani.

Le Fils d'Adultrine Edouard Cadol.

Les Mystères du Hasard, Paraveau Des Schènes.

L'Affaire Matapan Fortune de Boisgobey.

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La Femme de l'Inde Sheher-Masoch.

Le Plan d'Hélène Adolphe Racot.

Intimations.

NOW IN THE PRESS AND SHORTLY
TO BE PUBLISHED.



THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND
HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST.
A NEW DIRECTORY FOR CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE
PHILIPPINES, FOR THE YEAR 1882.
PRICE TWO DOLLARS.

The above work will shortly be published at the office of this Paper, and will contain a Directory for the Ports in the large portion of Asia comprised between Penang, in the Straits Settlements, and the Northern Ports, including Formosa; the Treaty Ports of China and Japan; the Philippine Islands; the British Colony of Hongkong; and the Portuguese Colony of Macao. The work will also contain the Principal Treaties between European countries and the United States and the countries East of the Straits, together with conditions of Trade, and the Port, Customs, Consular, and Harbour Regulations for the Ports of China and Japan; and a description of the Ports, with the latest Trade Statistics taken from the Reports of the Imperial Maritime Customs and other reliable sources.

The various Governments and Municipal Corporations have been applied to for information, and all Public Bodies and Companies, Bankers, Merchants, Consuls, and Professional and other Residents, have supplied the necessary matter to ensure correctness upon forms sent for that purpose. The Naval and Military portions have been taken from the latest published official lists and revised at Headquarters; in fact no pains have been spared to make "THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" a perfectly reliable *code mecum*.

"THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY AND HONG LIST FOR THE FAR EAST" will, in order that it may circulate extensively outside this Colony, be published at a POPULAR PRICE, and can be ordered at this Office for

TWO DOLLARS.

There is not space in the compass of an ordinary advertisement to detail all the information introduced into the work, but it may be fairly asserted that no such Directory has ever been published, either in Hongkong, or any other part of the East, at the price.

"Telegraph" Office, Hongkong.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
WILL CONTAIN
THE TREATIES WITH CHINA,
JAPAN & SIAM.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
WILL CONTAIN
A DESCRIPTION OF ALL THE
TREATY PORTS IN CHINA AND
JAPAN.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
WILL CONTAIN
TRADE STATISTICS FROM
OFFICIAL SOURCES.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
WILL CONTAIN
THE CONDITIONS OF TRADE WITH
CHINA & JAPAN.
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THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
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THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
WILL CONTAIN
THE PORT, CUSTOMS, CONSULAR,
AND HARBOUR REGULATIONS
OF THE TREATY PORTS OF
CHINA & JAPAN.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
IS PUBLISHED AT
TWO DOLLARS.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
WILL CONTAIN
LISTS OF MILITARY OFFICERS
serving in the China Command,
which has been revised at Headquarters.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
WILL CONTAIN
THE NAMES OF THE NAVAL
OFFICERS ON THE CHINA
STATION.
Including the most recent appointments
and local changes, corrected at
Head-Quarters.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
HAS BEEN
LARGELY ORDERED IN ALL PORTS
BETWEEN
SINGAPORE AND NEWCHANG.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
IS PUBLISHED AT
TWO DOLLARS.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
WILL CONTAIN
THE LARGEST LIST OF FOREIGN
RESIDENTS IN THE EAST.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

THE HONGKONG DIRECTORY
WILL CONTAIN
THE ONLY CORRECT LIST OF
HONGKONG GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS.
OFFICE, 6, PEDDAR'S HILL.

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
DRUGGISTS,
GENERAL CHEMISTS,
AND
Manufacturers of the following
AERATED WATERS,
viz:
SODA, TONIC, SARSAPARILLA,
AND POTASH, LEMONADE,
GINGERADE, RASPBERRYVADE,
AND PHOSPHORIC CHAMPAGNE.

Deliveries in Town and Harbour from
7 A.M. to 7 P.M.

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REPLIED,
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

Prompt Attention given to Coast Orders.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.
SHANGHAI PHARMACY,
SHANGHAI.
CANTON DISPENSARY,
CANTON.
THE DISPENSARY,
FOOCHOW.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed to "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name. Correspondents are requested to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, and for publication, but as evidence of good faith. All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only, and rejected communications can not be returned. Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until discontinued.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1882.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The proceedings at the meeting of the Legislative Council held yesterday afternoon were of such an important and interesting character that we consider it advisable to publish a verbatim report, reserving our editorial comments on the annual statement made by His Excellency the Governor for another issue. At yesterday's meeting there were present—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.
Hon. F. SNOWDEN, Acting Chief Justice.
Hon. M. S. TONNICHY, Acting Colonial Secretary.
Hon. E. L. O'MALLEY, Attorney-General.
Hon. W. M. DEANE, Acting Colonial Treasurer.
Hon. P. RYRIE.
Hon. NG CHOY.
Hon. F. BUCKLEY JOHNSON.
Hon. E. R. BELLIOS.

THE MINUTES OF THE last meeting were read and confirmed.

A POINT OF ORDER.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The hon. member is out of order in doing so. The Order Book states that the first business before the Council to-day is "The Governor's statement on opening the session of 1882." I should think this is the first time in any colony in which when that appeared upon the Order Book any hon. member endeavoured to interrupt between the Governor and his annual statement to the members of the Council. I trust such an occurrence will not take place again at this Council table.

THE GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL STATEMENT.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Honourable gentlemen of the Legislative Council, in opening the Legislative Session of 1882 I have to inform you that the Queen has been graciously pleased to confirm and allow thirteen of the fourteen Ordinances which were passed in 1881. Of these Ordinances, No. 1 of 1881, the Macao Extradition Ordinance, is one which deals with a question which engaged the attention of my predecessors for forty years, and it has now been settled by the negotiations of Lord Kimberley and Lord Granville with the Government of Lisbon. And though undoubtedly the credit of that settlement belongs entirely to the Home Governments, nevertheless the advantage of it will be felt by the Governments of Macao and Hongkong, for the Executives of both colonies will now be enabled to deal with fugitive criminals in a way that they could not before. Ordinance No. 3 of 1881, the Penal Laws Amendment Ordinance, now confirmed by the Queen, is not the least important reform in colonial penal laws that has been effected in our time. It repeals or amends ten Ordinances, some of them of exceptional severity, and all practically directed against one race only. The Ordinance gives permanent legislative authority to a policy which the Royal prerogative enabled me to enforce for some years past, in spite of some little local criticism; and henceforth it will be illegal in this Colony to brand any criminal to have public flogging, to allow flogging in Hongkong, except for such offences as entail flogging in England, or to allow flogging on the back. The impolitic system now abolished by the Queen and the legislature of this Colony, though devised for the suppression of crime, had actually manufactured a criminal population and increased crime. This abolition has been followed by the diminution of crime, and a universal feeling throughout the Colony, to which you can all bear witness, that life and property have become more secure in Hongkong. I have no wish, gentlemen, to weary you with statistics, but I may perhaps quote the authentic figures which have recently been put before me with reference to the class of crimes which some years ago caused so much alarm throughout the Colony. I take the four years during which, as I have just mentioned, under the exercise of the Royal prerogative, I practically suspended those penal laws which Her Majesty has now abolished. In 1878 cases of murder numbered seven, and this number was reduced to four in 1879; in 1880 there was one case, and in 1881 two cases. Of cases of robbery with violence from the person, the number was 35 in 1878, 30 in 1879, 25 in 1880, and 19 in 1881. Cases of burglary, or larceny from dwelling houses, amounted to 113 in 1878, 101 in 1879, 53 in 1880, and to 60 in 1881. There were two assaults with intent to rob in 1880, and none in 1881. Taking the total of these really grave crimes, which caused so much apprehension and alarm, in 1878 they amounted to 173, in 1879 to 145, in 1880 to 81, and in 1881 to 81.

The only other class of crime to which I will refer is one which has engaged a good deal of the attention of His Honour the Chief Justice, and that is kidnapping. With reference to that crime, you are aware that Lord Kimberley instructed me to approve in his name of a Chinese society, which now deals practically with the suppression of that crime, acting in concert with the Captain Superintendent of Police. The consequence is that the smallest number of kidnappings cases that occurred in the four years I have referred to was in 1881, when we had only two such cases. This, I believe, is owing to the operations of the Chinese society, the skill and energy of the police force, and the action of the Supreme Court in passing heavy sentences on those who are convicted of that offence. I believe that by these means the principal kidnappers are at the present moment locked up in our gaol. Amongst the other Ordinances passed in 1881, is Ordinance No. 14, the Companies Ordinance, which introduced some reforms that were pressed upon my attention by my honourable friend, the senior official member of the Legislative Council. It is an Ordinance that facilitates the work of those commercial associations that are doing so much to utilise the surplus capital of the Colony. In connection with the Appropriation Ordinance for 1882, which Her Majesty has sanctioned, I am laying to-day upon the table some despatches and some financial papers. The financial papers of the past year are in comparison with that of the preceding year, and the statement of 1881, compared with that of 1880. I find that the revenue for the year 1881 amounted to over \$1,100,000, being the largest revenue ever collected in this Colony. You are aware that for some years past I have impressed upon you the fact that in my opinion it was not proper to treat as actual revenue the proceeds of the sale of Crown lands. The proceeds of the sale of Crown lands I have always held to represent the capital of the Colony, and therefore in the figures I shall give to you, I do not include that important item. But adding that item, we find that the sum actually collected amounts to \$1,309,428. The receipts of the preceding year amounted to \$1,056,000, and this last year the amount collected was more than a quarter of a million in excess of that of the preceding year. I shall refer later on to the question of the land revenue, and at present I will only ask your attention to a few of the items in some of the principal heads of revenue. I find for instance taking the item of stamp revenue that the total sum collected in 1881 amounted to \$173,641, in the preceding year it had reached \$173,623. Now, there is one item in our revenue which, compared with the two previous years, shows no change, viz., \$205,000 from the opium farmer. I had the satisfaction of selling the opium farm a few years ago at an increase of price from \$132,000 to \$205,000. But it was said that I had rather unduly forced up the price of the farm, and it was anticipated that when next I should have to dispose of the farm, it would be sold at a smaller figure than the current rate; and indeed one of my officials, a man of ability and knowledge of the Colony, in a communication he made in London to one of the gentlemen in the Colonial Office, expressed great apprehension with respect to the opium farm, and in a memorandum which was transmitted to me by the Secretary of State, he said that there would be a falling off in the opium revenue when the opium farm was sold this year. However, these anticipations have not been verified; I have sold the opium farm for 1882-3 for \$210,000, so there has been no falling off in the current revenue, which is \$205,000. Now, in looking through the items of revenue, which I am putting upon the table, you will see that in this return it states that there is a considerable increase in what are called fees of office. The increase in 1881 amounted to \$20,215. On analysing that increase, which I do from a return furnished me by my honourable friend, the Colonial Treasurer, Captain Deane, I find the items of that increase are of importance in considering the question of the prosperity of the Colony. I find, for instance, that the items for licenses and fees of junks, which amounted in 1880 to \$18,000, increased in 1881 to \$19,839. Now between the years 1880 and 1881, there was also an increase in the foreign junk trade, and the foreign steamers plying by the Chinese. The junk trade has to compete with the coasting steamers, and when we find that the trade of the coasting steamers, and the general foreign shipping of the Colony increasing at the same time with an increase in the junk trade, we have a combination which shows the prosperous state of the commerce of this Colony. With regard to the foreign shipping, I have not yet before me the final returns, but as you are aware, the revenue from the light dues, and the increase of foreign shipping trade. I find that the increase on light dues of foreign shipping amounts to \$2,660. Well, that seems in itself a small sum, but when you remember that the light dues only amount to one cent per ton, upon the foreign shipping, the small apparent increase means an increase of 266,000 tons on foreign shipping in one year in the harbour. I believe that the tonnage of foreign shipping cleared and entered in Hongkong in 1881 exceeded 8,000,000. There are a few other items, which, though apparently small, undoubtedly represent a very real and profitable increase of our revenues from cargo boats and cargo boats' certificates, from the shipping of sailors, and from the examinations of masters and engineers, upon all of which items there is an increase in the past year. Under the head of miscellaneous receipts, I find a considerable increase in the revenue from the storage of gunpowder and kerosene. The total amount of revenue under the head of miscellaneous items in 1880, was \$6,695, whereas in 1881, it was \$18,294. The increase of the revenue under this head is precisely the same figure as was when I first became Governor of Hongkong in 1877, and the increase of revenue that has gone on is therefore an increase of revenue dependent upon the progress and prosperity of the Colony. I have not to ask your attention to the expenditure of the Colony. The expenditure in 1880 amounted to \$885,000, whereas in 1881 the amount was somewhat larger, viz., \$895,000. The difference, you will observe, between the revenue collected in 1881 and the expenditure of that year is about \$400,000. You will, perhaps, inquire what has been done with that expenditure, and especial reference has been made to the expenditure of last year under the head of works and buildings. I find that the expenditure on works and buildings in 1881 amounted to \$59,781, as compared with \$50,568 in the preceding year, showing an increase of \$9,000. Under the head of what are called miscellaneous services, there was an increase last year of \$1,000. Now, if we take the works and buildings, the items showing an increase consist of repairs to buildings, amounting to \$14,098, as compared with \$11,923 in the preceding year. One large cause of increase is the typhoon break-water in Causeway Bay, the expenditure upon which is \$30,095. The work is proceeding, and will be so far completed before the next typhoon season, as to furnish at that time, if we should have a typhoon, a substantial protection to the junk population. There has been a slight increase in the item of street lamps, which amounts to \$2,448. There is an increase in the telegraph service from \$2,900 to \$5,500. As you are aware, our telegraphic communications are now connected with all the police stations in the Colony. Two small submarine lines have been laid across the harbour, and you are also no doubt aware that we are substituting iron posts in the place of the ordinary wooden poles. Amongst the other miscellaneous items which account for this increase I find the item of compensation to Mr. Coughtrie of \$1,500. This compensation, I think was claimed in May, 1878, at all events a considerable time ago, by Mr. Coughtrie, for an injury which he stated was done to his dwelling-house by the bursting of a drain, and he held the survey Department responsible for it. He applied for \$1,500, and after a very long inquiry into the matter, I am happy to say that the Earl of Kimberley sanctioned the claim, and that the sum of \$1,500 has been paid to him. As to the ordinary services of the Colony, such as the provision on an efficient police force, providing a proper staff for the Harbour Department, and doing what is required for the other establishments in the Colony, I have no hesitation in saying that the Government has not been in any way backward; I think my hon. friend on my left, the head of the police force, will bear me out in saying that any expenditure required for that force has never been refused by the Executive, and the same, I think, will be said by the gentlemen at the head of the Harbour Department. As to our roads, streets, and bridges, I am on the whole perfectly satisfied with the progress that I have over and over again intimated to Mr. Price and to Mr. Bowdler that my assistance required for that department, I am prepared to sanction; and I believe the condition of our streets and roads, so far from being unsatisfactory, is highly creditable to the Survey Department. On the whole, gentlemen, I think you have no reason to be dissatisfied with the expenditure you have voted, and with the mode in which it has been laid out. There are certain works, which I was anxious to see carried out, and the Survey-General expressed his inability to deal until the repairs to the Praya Wall had been completed. There is a provision for a new gaol on Stone Cutters' Island. That is a matter which has been pressed very much upon my attention by the Government, and the Earl Kimberley has expressed an opinion that that is the only suitable site for the gaol. You are aware also that the work of establishing an Observatory at Kowloon is a matter of importance, and you also probably know that the plans and estimates for a new Water Police station at Kowloon have been laid before Her Majesty's Government. At the end of the Survey Department, I proceeded some months ago to Peking, I instructed Mr. Bowdler to carry out what is known as the Tytam scheme. He recommended the getting out of persons from England who were capable of conducting technical work necessary for the carrying out of the scheme. I telegraphed for them, and in the meantime a question has been raised by a very eminent gentleman now in the Colony, Mr. Chadwick, as to going back upon the still more expensive scheme, in contrast to report later Tytam scheme, and he is about to report upon the matter to Her Majesty's Government. The matter has been delayed by a reference, very properly made, to the Survey-General, who is now in London. The plans of the Observatory have been referred to eminent scientific authorities in London, and I am awaiting instructions before beginning the work. The question of the Gaol is also before the Secretary of State, and having been referred to the Survey-General, the question has arisen as to the number of prisoners to be accommodated. When last I addressed you upon this subject, I thought we should provide accommodation for 750, and upon that subject the question has arisen as to how far it might not be desirable to have the gaol on Stone Cutters' Island made to accommodate say 600 or 700, and a lock-up on this side of the harbour for 100 or 200. That question is under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government. Now, having mentioned Mr. Chadwick, who I am happy to say is in the Colony, and is about to report to Her Majesty's Government upon some questions connected with the sanitation of the Colony, questions which have been brought to the notice of Her Majesty's Government, as appears in the instructions given to Mr. Chadwick by representation—constant representations, as Lord Kimberley says—by the officer in command of the troops as to the condition of the Chinese houses, and the system of drainage, which, he says, is injuriously affecting the health of the troops under his command. The sanitary state of this Colony is always a question of great interest to us; and their being 900 or 1,000 European troops in the Colony, the medical supervision gives us an opportunity as it were, by means of the mortality of the troops, of testing its sanitary state. I do not by any means assert that the mortality and sickness among the troops shows the general mortality and sickness in the Colony, because it is generally greater among the troops, but comparing year by year the mortality among the troops, we arrive at some conclusion as to the condition of the houses in the vicinity of the barracks. The complaints to which Lord Kimberley refers are made by the Officer Commanding the Troops in Hongkong in 1879, 1880, and 1881. I have before me a return of the mortality among the troops during those years, and I find that the number of deaths amongst the white troops in 1879 was 12, in 1880 it was 22, and in 1879; in 1880 this had fallen to 20, and last year, 1881, it only amounted to 9, so that as far as these returns, which we have just received from the military authorities, indicate, there has been a steady decline in the mortality of the white troops in this Colony of late years. Now, taking a return of the same years, which has just reached me of the whole population of the Colony, we find that taking the male population in 1879, the death rate among the Chinese amounted to 33 per thousand, and in 1880 it had fallen to 29 per thousand, and in 1881 it had fallen to 24 per thousand. These figures are eminently satisfactory, as showing the general condition of the health of the Colony, and as showing what mistakes have been made by those who believe that owing to the increase of the Chinese population, or any other cause, the sanitary state of the Colony for the last three years has been getting worse, instead of steadily improving. Now, on this subject of the health of the troops, there is one topic which I have not referred to before, but which I must touch upon because I am instructed by the Secretary of State to prepare an Ordinance to deal with what is called the Contagious Diseases Ordinance. You will no doubt remember that in December 1877, and in January 1878, I took the responsibility of appointing a Commission to inquire into the operation of this Ordinance, and the Registrar-General's proceeding in connection with it. You will also remember that one result of that Commission, and the inquiry into the operation of that Ordinance, and the Registrar-General's proceeding in connection with it, was that certain measures which I adopted to put an end to abuses that I found in opera-

tion under that Ordinance, would cause an increase of contagious diseases amongst the troops. Those who had not an opportunity of knowing the facts circulated these rumours throughout the Colony, and I believe even to this day it is generally understood in some quarters that though it was admitted that the abuses which I put an end to were revolting abuses; though it was admitted that it was impossible any Government could sanction some of the abuses which were detected by the Commission, yet nevertheless putting a stop to them, and especially of the abuses caused by the employment of paid informers, the stopping of these matters it was said undoubtedly caused an increase in the amount of disease amongst the troops. I need hardly say that the Ordinance was passed at the instance of the Office Commanding the Troops here many years ago. It had been devised for the troops, and for what was called protecting the soldiers and sailors. Now, in looking to the result of changes I felt it my duty to make, I recently asked for a return from the Military Authorities showing the number of soldiers suffering from contagious diseases during the four years past; that is, during the time that the reforms which I felt it necessary to introduce had been in operation. Here are the figures which have been furnished to the Colonial Secretary by the Military Authorities on the 23rd of January last. In 1878 the number of soldiers suffering from these diseases amounted to 188, in 1879 to 182, in 1880 to 164, and in 1881 to 136. You therefore see that the abolition of abuses in the management of the Contagious Diseases Ordinance has had a similar effect to that which took place in the more important one of our penal legislation. I will not dwell upon that subject further than to say that in the instructions given by Lord Kimberley to me, important changes were made in the Ordinance; when that Ordinance has been in the first instance to the Secretary of State, and when it has been sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, it will be laid before you. I believe I used the words "revolting abuses" in reference to those which I put a stop to. They are in fact the words used by the Earl of Kimberley himself in referring to some abuses I found existing in Hongkong. There are, on the whole, gentlemen, no reasons to be disappointed with the sanitary state of the Colony. The improvement in the health, and in the health of the troops; I am not satisfied with the health of the Colony nevertheless. I think that the town of Victoria might be made a model of sanitation, with its position on the slope of a hill, the possibility of obtaining an almost unlimited supply of water for drinking and washing purposes, and having here a native population who will readily carry out the Chinese custom by which the sewage and refuse is carried out of the town, and used for agricultural purposes. Having a population accustomed to that sanitary practice, I have very little doubt this Colony can be made a model of sanitation. I observed the other day that Professor Huxley said that some Oriental nations that we had been in the habit of calling barbarous, were actually more civilised than ourselves: in the mode in which they treat sewage, and he referred especially to the Chinese, and their mode of dealing with it. It is a subject in which we may have something to learn from the Chinese. In England people are now reconsidering the question of the underground drainage system to carry off excrementitious matter by water supply, and some eminent men of our best sanitary authorities are in favour of what is called the Chinese process. There are, no doubt, in this Colony other things necessary for good sanitation. Eighteen months ago I called for information from the Survey Department as to the establishment of baths and wash-houses for the poor, and recently I have been again in communication with the leading Chinese inhabitants of the Colony on the subject, and the result is that a system of private baths which now exists to some extent for Chinese, for which twenty cash are paid—that system can be extended, and I believe the poor will be able before long to avail themselves of baths and wash-houses where the payment will be extremely moderate, that is, beginning at a scale of one or two cash. These baths and wash-houses, with a moderate supply of warm water, can be built without much cost. You will require a certain number of them, and when the plans are completed I will have much pleasure in submitting them to you and asking for the moderate vote that their cost will entail. Now I have told you that the item from the sale of Crown lands, which reached in 1881 the sum of \$200,000, was not disposed to treat as one of actual revenue. With respect to that item there has also been some expression of opinion in the Colony. I have seen it stated, and I understand it has been pretty generally whispered, that the sale of Crown lands effected in 1881 was really a speculative sale, that the Crown sold lands for sums far higher than purchasers were entitled to pay, and that the land so sold would not be applied to practical purposes, but was in reality intended for speculative purposes, that is, for being sold from one person to another, no buildings being erected upon the land. You are well aware that at one time in the history of this Colony such things occurred, and large purchases were made many years ago of Crown lands in certain portions of the Colony which to this day have been unused. They were bought for speculative purposes and they remain idle. A similar charge appears to have been made as regards the sale of the Crown lands in 1881. This is a matter of public interest, and I have therefore asked the Survey-General to favour me with a return of the statement as to what has been done or is proposed to be done with the land so sold. Now, I find that the first lot sold was inland lot No. 509. It was sold for \$3,500 to a Chinese gentleman, and upon that lot he is erecting a number of houses. The next lot sold in 1881 was lot No. 26 at Kowloon, a Marine lot. That has been sold to the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., a company, as you know, one of the most flourishing of its kind in the East, which is doing an immense amount of good in the Colony. That was purchased with a view to the erection of houses for the workmen employed at the dock, but the buildings are not yet commenced. The next I see was a lot sold to Messrs. Bellios and Chater, for \$12,525 and upon that lot godowns and houses are to be erected during the current year. Speaking in the presence of my hon. friend Mr. Bellios I may say that though the godowns are not yet finished some of them are actually let, such is the demand for business premises in the Colony. The next lot was a small one, sold for \$1,768, purchased by a European gentleman for a lawn tennis court, which has been constructed. The next lot, for \$2,035, was also sold to an enterprising friend, Mr. Chater, and upon that lot there have been erected four godowns for the storage of kerosene oil, and they will contain about 120,000 cases. The buildings are nearly completed. There was a small inland lot sold to Mr. Eds, which is still unoccupied. Two very important lots were sold at Bowington to Lai Wei Young, one for \$10,025 and the other for \$6,025, and upon those lots that Chinese gentleman is constructing, as you all may see, a large sugar refinery. The site selected is one that, as you know, has remained perfectly idle and grass-grown up to this year. It is between the great premises of Jardine, Matheson and Co. and the city of Victoria. Upon this ground that sugar refinery is now being built. It is the first time that a sugar refinery, as such, has been

constructed in the Colony of Hongkong, for the sugar refinery a little further to the east, which is called the East Point Sugar Refinery, consists of buildings which, as you are aware, were constructed originally with a view of doing something to remedy the inconvenience felt with regard to the currency of the Colony by establishing here a Mint. Sir Hercules Robinson constructed those fine buildings for a Mint. They were subsequently sold—I think it was unfortunate—for less than a third of what they cost, but I am bound to say they are now usefully employed by an energetic company, the China Sugar Refining Company. With regard to the sugar refinery being built by the Chinese a little nearer the town, the machinery for that building is being obtained from Scotland; it is of the best kind, with all the latest improvements, and the machinery and buildings will cost about \$35,000. I find that a small lot, inland lot No. 622, was sold for \$510 to a European gentleman for the storage of timber. Next there is a lot sold for \$2,525 to another European gentleman for kerosene godowns. These godowns have been nearly completed. The next lot, a small one, sold for \$205, is still unoccupied. I come now to a very important sale that was effected at Kowloon of marine lots No. 20 and 21, sold, one for \$29,025 and the other for \$24,025. They have been purchased by Mr. Chater. The ground is still unoccupied from the sea. I had an opportunity some time ago of examining the plans and estimates, and with respect to that important work I have been furnished by Mr. Danby with a memorandum in which he states—

The ground on the beach at Kowloon between Teluk-shui and the Royal Naval Coal Shed was sold lately by Government to some influential capitalists in the Colony, who propose utilizing it for commercial purposes by erecting large godowns and a sugar refinery. The ground will be reclaimed by them, a strong sea wall being erected in front and for the whole length of the ground, whereas will also be constructed a long pier, the front of the sea wall so that vessels of large tonnage can aboat alongside and either discharge or take on cargo, at any state of the tide and in all weathers, the position being during the typhoon season. The storage capacity of the whole of the godowns will be about 375,000 tons, and the capital that will have been laid out on the project when completed will exceed one million dollars.

I find the next lots are lots brought by European friends of mine, some as sites for bungalows on the hills—Messrs. Alford, Ede, Remondios, Stephens, and others. The ground is still unoccupied. Next we come to a lot at Belcher's Bay, which was sold for \$36,100. In point of fact I believe that on that lot there will be constructed a dock of large dimensions, for some of the Chinese gentlemen who purchased that valuable piece of Crown land have expressed to me their regret that Her Majesty's ship *Imconstant* should be seen leaving this harbour to proceed to Nagasaki to be docked, and they undertake that when they have an opportunity of making their new dock, Hongkong will then have a dock capable of taking in the largest vessels of the Royal Navy's service. I find certain works which were undertaken in Duddell-street, and for a small portion of which some Crown land was sold. My hon. friend on my left (Mr. Bellios) has those works in hand also. Upon that site there is now being built, as you see, substantial and magnificent godowns, and I think some of these, as many as nine of them, though not yet finished, are actually let. Finally, I come to a lot with respect to which there has been a good deal of talk, inland lot No. 837, which was sold for \$24,500 to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. That is a lot about half way between this and the wharf at a place called Quarry Bay, and the only reason why any one can speak of the Government having got larger prices than it really ought to expect for land is that perhaps with reference to the sale of that lot an incident occurred which might give rise to the idea there was some speculation. I think it was \$5,000 or \$6,000 that in consultation with Mr. Bowdler we arranged as the sum at which the upset price for that lot should be fixed. I may mention that, as usual in such cases, I received representations from Mr. Bowdler that the upset price was somewhat too high. From time to time in 1881, with respect to the lots at Bowington especially, I myself ventured considerably to increase the upset price the Survey Department recommended. Representations were made to me on the subject, but I did not feel justified in reducing the price. But with respect to this particular lot I understand, in fact it is a matter of notoriety, commented on in the public Press, that though the upset price was something like \$6,000 a gentleman attended at the sale and ran the price up to \$24,500. Well, there can be no doubt whatever from all I understand, if that gentleman had not obtained the lot for \$24,500, it would not have been for the purpose of erecting upon it a sugar refinery. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire intend to put upon it a sugar refinery, which I am disposed to think will be one of the best sugar refineries in the Her Majesty's Colonial empire. When I was Governor-in-Chief in the Windward Islands I had an opportunity of seeing a remarkable sugar refinery built at St. Lucia, which at that time was supposed to be the best in Her Majesty's colonies. Having seen the plans and estimates of the new sugar refinery, with all the machinery and plant now on its way out obtained from Blake, Barclay & Co., of Greenwich, I have no hesitation in saying we are about to have a sugar refinery in Hongkong that can compete with the large refinery at St. Lucia. This new manufactory will consist of a building having nine floors; it will be constructed to a great extent of iron, on the modern system and with the latest machinery. The total sum which will be expended on the undertaking when completed will not be far short, I believe, of £200,000. Now that is, gentlemen, a detailed account of what was done with the Crown lands sold by me in 1881. There is nothing in that narrative showing what is called land speculation; on the contrary, it shows that the commercial wants of the Colony have been increasing, that the necessity of providing more godowns has been felt by the merchants, and that our manufactures are increasing, and you will notice, and I am happy to notice, that not only has there been an increase of enterprise and prosperity on the part of the foreign community, but also on the part of the Chinese. Some time ago I observed, in referring to the progress of India, that the Secretary of State for India, Lord Hamilton, looked forward to the time when certain public works in India would be undertaken by private enterprise. When you consider what is done by the Survey Department in this Colony, you cannot but notice how small the amount really is which we lay out in public works as compared with what may be done by private enterprise and capital when the Colony is really prosperous. Sir Hercules Robinson entertained the scheme of forming a Praya Wall at Kowloon and wharves running from it out into the sea, that the steamers and ships could go alongside. The expense was considerable. The scheme was contemplated by the Government, but it was felt the time had not come for the government to undertake it. Now it is being undertaken, not by the Government, but by private enterprise, and I am sure you will agree with me that nothing can be more healthy, as a sign of our prosperity, than that works of this kind should be undertaken, not by the Survey Department, but by private enterprise. The Government could not have afforded to lay out a million dollars on a work of that kind. Of course the sugar refinery which I have referred to is one that belongs to the domain of private enterprise. But it is manifest that whatever you may say with respect to the prosperity of the Colony as shown by the revenue returns, by the general commercial activity of the Colony, by the fortunate position of the Colony with regard to the diminution of crime and the greater comfort and ease of every one as regards the protection

of life and property—whatever indications of prosperity may be seen, in that it is also one that deserves congratulation that, in the history of Hongkong, there never was a time when there was more enterprise among all classes of the community, Europeans as well as Chinese. And there is one class of enterprise, an intellectual enterprise, to which I have great pleasure in referring. I myself have the honour of belonging to the Inns of Court in London. I passed an examination in Lincoln's Inn, some of my learned friends who are present know that at those examinations there are young men from Oxford and Cambridge, London University and King's College, and the great competition is for the studentships or scholarships given at Lincoln's Inn. Last year a young man born under the British flag in this Colony succeeded at that examination in defeating his competitors from Oxford and Cambridge, from London University and from the Scotch and Irish Universities, and in three of the subjects of examination he obtained first place. That is Mr. Ho Kai, a gentleman born in this Colony. I think it is a matter well to congratulate ourselves upon and that young gentleman, who has been called to the bar, will, I think, this month in the Colony, and I am sure you will all join with me in welcoming him. My attention has been called by the Chinese inhabitants of the Colony to one or two things in which they are especially interested, and I have had under my consideration a scheme they have put before me by which wealthy Chinese in this Colony might have an opportunity afforded them of putting aside a certain portion of the money they make, investing it in such a way as to benefit their descendants and also to benefit the Colony. I may briefly say it is a system of forming a species of trust property which may be administered by a certain number of the Chinese community, perhaps those who under one of our Ordinances conduct the affairs of the Tung Wah Hospital, and to that body of Chinese will be given from time to time considerable sums by wealthy Chinese which will be invested by them, a certain portion, say seven-tenths, to be appropriated so as to benefit the descendants of the donors by giving them education, and in other ways, the remaining three-tenths to be devoted to the public interests of the Colony in general. A scheme of that kind, carefully elaborated, has been recommended to me by what I am justified in describing as the Chinese community of the Colony. They have put it before me. I am disposed to give it the most favourable consideration, and I mention it now with satisfaction because it is a further indication of the real progress of Hongkong. As long as these gentlemen, who, as you know, now represent the wealthiest taxpayers in the community, as long as they desire to establish themselves and their descendants in the Colony for ever, so long we have a guarantee for loyalty and good order. On the whole, gentlemen, in opening the Legislative Session for 1882 I think we can all look forward, without anxiety, not only to the present year, but to the continued prosperity of the Colony.

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON—Will your Excellency inform me if I shall not be order?

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON—No. We must adhere to the Order Book.

OPIMUM ORDINANCE.
His Excellency moved the first reading of "An Ordinance to Amend the Opium Ordinance No. 2 of 1858." He explained that it was introduced by direction of the Secretary of State, its object being the protection of prepared opium in transit through the Colony.

VEHICLES ORDINANCE.
His Excellency moved the first reading of "An Ordinance to Amend the Vehicles Ordinance, No. 6 of 1864."

NATURALIZATION.
His Excellency moved the first reading of Bills for the naturalization of Lai Shun Ting, Chan Teng Cho, Ng Li Hing, Yau Chong Peng, and Chan Man Wing.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER said he trusted that before these Ordinances were passed schedules would be attached describing who the gentlemen were to whom they referred. In other cases it had been merely the naturalization of a name. In the latter case they knew who was intended from the preamble, but with regard to the other bills which had been passed he had in his employ some gentlemen who might claim them, as their names corresponded with the naturalization Ordinances, and there was nothing to show who was naturalized.

His Excellency said he thought the suggestion a good one.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the form adopted with reference to the Ordinance was one adopted in another Colony where it had been in force for years, one of the few Colonies in which it was needed by legislation in cases of individual naturalization, and it was a form which, as His Excellency was aware, had received the assent of Her Majesty's Government, and although there might be a schedule he did not think it would be at all proper to attach such a schedule.

His Excellency said that although it might not be necessary to attach such a schedule he thought the information asked for might be given. The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER said the description might be given in the preamble.

Hon. G. C. F. JOY said the age should certainly be given.

The Bills were read a first time.

THE TRAMWAY BILL.
The ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE, Chairman of the Special Committee on the Tramway Bill, presented the report of the Committee.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS—There is a small matter which requires consideration. It has occurred to me, and I should like in my duty if I omitted to mention it. I stated it at our Committee meetings, but was directed by my honourable friend the Chairman to bring it to the attention of this assembly. We are all aware that hitherto whenever it has been found necessary to improve thoroughfares, the level of the roads has been raised at the discretion of the Surveyor-General. At the examination of this Bill it was elicited that in certain cases when roads happened to have been higher than the pavement of houses on either side, and when it was so desired by the owners, the compounds of such houses were raised equally with the new roads, but the Surveyor-General told us that no compensation was demanded and none was granted. I say it is unfortunate for the taxpayers that no such questions have been raised as yet, because in the case of houses so affected claims might have been made for them to be rebuilt.

If the door were opened to such claims I dare say the coffers of the Government would be soon emptied and there would not be money enough to meet the demands. In raising the floors of houses, the ceilings are brought nearer to the ground, consequently a three-storyed house in course of time becomes a two-storyed house, permanent injury being thus inflicted on account of the property. Rents are reduced on account of the smaller accommodation, and the property depreciates in proportion. For this reason, I maintain, householders have so far contributed their mite towards improvements that have been accomplished, consequently it will be only fair for the Tramways Company to contribute their quota towards raising the level of the streets. Now under this Bill as it stands, when wishing to raise the level of roads in future the Surveyor-General will have to remove and to relay tramways at Government expense. For my part I shall be happy if the enterprise of my hon. friend opposite received a further concession, but as the largest foreign taxpayer himself, my hon. friend and your Excellency as the custodian of the public purse, will be better judges.

speaking generally, I presume it will be a hardship for the taxpayers to be compelled to incur an expense which they have not been in the habit of incurring in the past. It will be borne in mind that the roads have not gone to the tramways, but that the tramways have come to the roads. Considering the concessions that have been granted to the Tramways Company, I think it is fair, in the event of circumstances necessitating it, that they should pay for removing and relaying their own lines; otherwise, irrespective of cost, I am afraid improvements to roads would be a thing of the past. On every attempt at improvement the Surveyor-General would be haunted by the dread of the expense; it would prove a perfect bugbear to him; and eventually it would be found that no improvements would be undertaken.

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON asked at what stage the matter was at present.

His Excellency said the actual motion before the Council was that the report be now considered. They would have to go into Committee of the whole Council upon it.

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON moved that the consideration of the Bill in Committee be adjourned until to-morrow.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL called attention to the fact that in the minutes of the special Committee the names of the members present at the meetings were given and the names of those absent, and the name of the latter throughout.

He asked for an explanation of this, as he had not been appointed on the Committee.

Explanations were given by the Governor and the Chief Justice from which it appeared that the Attorney-General had consented to act on the Committee, but by an oversight the appointment was not made by the Council, and his name had been inserted in the minutes as absent under a wrong impression.

The motion that the Council go into Committee on the Bill to-day (Wednesday) was carried.

CORRESPONDENCE RE "OCEAN."
His Excellency said the Hon. Mr. Johnson had given notice of a motion with respect to the production of the correspondence with the Government of New South Wales relative to the passengers by the *Ocean*, and since then the hon. gentleman had written to say he had no intention of moving for this correspondence. He might say that as what was called an unopposed return, but what was referred to as the correspondence between the Government, as well as his remembrance was, with the exception of one letter, telegraphic correspondence. It was a correspondence respecting the alleged prevalence of small-pox and the quarantine laid on the steamship *Ocean* at Sydney, and as well as he remembered he had laid the whole of that correspondence on the table already. He begged to inform the hon. member he could obtain the correspondence as an unopposed return. He would take that opportunity of saying that in the notice as sent to the Clerk of Council there occurred the word "barbarous" in the notice of motion.

His Excellency said he would not be order?

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON—No. We must adhere to the Order Book.

OPIMUM ORDINANCE.
His Excellency moved the first reading of "An Ordinance to Amend the Opium Ordinance No. 2 of 1858." He explained that it was introduced by direction of the Secretary of State, its object being the protection of prepared opium in transit through the Colony.

VEHICLES ORDINANCE.
His Excellency moved the first reading of "An Ordinance to Amend the Vehicles Ordinance, No. 6 of 1864."

NATURALIZATION.
His Excellency moved the first reading of Bills for the naturalization of Lai Shun Ting, Chan Teng Cho, Ng Li Hing, Yau Chong Peng, and Chan Man Wing.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER said he trusted that before these Ordinances were passed schedules would be attached describing who the gentlemen were to whom they referred. In other cases it had been merely the naturalization of a name. In the latter case they knew who was intended from the preamble, but with regard to the other bills which had been passed he had in his employ some gentlemen who might claim them, as their names corresponded with the naturalization Ordinances, and there was nothing to show who was naturalized.

His Excellency said he thought the suggestion a good one.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the form adopted with reference to the Ordinance was one adopted in another Colony where it had been in force for years, one of the few Colonies in which it was needed by legislation in cases of individual naturalization, and it was a form which, as His Excellency was aware, had received the assent of Her Majesty's Government, and although there might be a schedule he did not think it would be at all proper to attach such a schedule.

His Excellency said that although it might not be necessary to attach such a schedule he thought the information asked for might be given. The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER said the description might be given in the preamble.

Hon. G. C. F. JOY said the age should certainly be given.

The Bills were read a first time.

THE TRAMWAY BILL.
The ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE, Chairman of the Special Committee on the Tramway Bill, presented the report of the Committee.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS—There is a small matter which requires consideration. It has occurred to me, and I should like in my duty if I omitted to mention it. I stated it at our Committee meetings, but was directed by my honourable friend the Chairman to bring it to the attention of this assembly. We are all aware that hitherto whenever it has been found necessary to improve thoroughfares, the level of the roads has been raised at the discretion of the Surveyor-General. At the examination of this Bill it was elicited that in certain cases when roads happened to have been higher than the pavement of houses on either side, and when it was so desired by the owners, the compounds of such houses were raised equally with the new roads, but the Surveyor-General told us that no compensation was demanded and none was granted. I say it is unfortunate for the taxpayers that no such questions have been raised as yet, because in the case of houses so affected claims might have been made for them to be rebuilt.

If the door were opened to such claims I dare say the coffers of the Government would be soon emptied and there would not be money enough to meet the demands. In raising the floors of houses, the ceilings are brought nearer to the ground, consequently a three-storyed house in course of time becomes a two-storyed house, permanent injury being thus inflicted on account of the property. Rents are reduced on account of the smaller accommodation, and the property depreciates in proportion. For this reason, I maintain, householders have so far contributed their mite towards improvements that have been accomplished, consequently it will be only fair for the Tramways Company to contribute their quota towards raising the level of the streets. Now under this Bill as it stands, when wishing to raise the level of roads in future the Surveyor-General will have to remove and to relay tramways at Government expense. For my part I shall be happy if the enterprise of my hon. friend opposite received a further concession, but as the largest foreign taxpayer himself, my hon. friend and your Excellency as the custodian of the public purse, will be better judges.

Thomsett relative to the difficulty that has arisen as to his duties as emigration officer. The main point at issue appears to be what is a contract of service, and I agree generally with you in thinking it is not necessary every such contract should be in writing. The main point is thus decided and the rest of the dispatch hon. members will have the opportunity of perusing.

THE STATE OF THE ROADS.

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON—The next question I have to put is as to the state of the roads, to which you have already alluded. You have expressed your opinion that the roads were in an extremely satisfactory state. Now, that was not the opinion of the members of this Council in Finance Committee in August last, and from my own observation and the observation of all those who have had experience of roads, their condition is very much the same as it was then, excepting that the weather is now dry and we don't experience the inconvenience so much. I am afraid your Excellency has not been recently in the neighbourhood of the Point. It is now nine months ago since I called your attention to the fact that along a portion of the Praya in that direction the road was a foot higher on one side than on the other. I can answer for it that nothing has been done to this road since I returned to the Colony in March last. As I described the road, it is at least three quarters of a foot higher at one side than at the other. There are water courses running down it transversely, it is dangerous for vehicles, and there are holes in which any horse might stumble. I am sure the Surveyor-General has not been on that part of the road or he would have observed this.

His Excellency said he might point out to his hon. friend as a point of order, that the question was upon the paper, and it ought to be asked in the form in which it appeared. It was not in order that there should be a speech made in putting a question. The actual rule in the House of Commons and in Parliamentary practice was that all questions should be limited as far as possible to matters connected with the business of Parliament, and not put in such a way as to bring out opinion, argument, or inference. They had now heard a certain amount of opinion, argument, and inference very well stated, but it was not in accordance with Parliamentary practice to do this in putting a question. He noticed in Singapore, that the practice was same there as in the House of Commons. No arguments were allowed on questions. The hon. member had asked his question, and he might say that the attention of the Acting Surveyor-General was called to the minute of the Finance Committee, and that that officer was acting upon it. He (His Excellency) had inspected, as well as his leisure would permit him to do, the work which had been performed, and he was bound to say, he was not dissatisfied with the way in which the work had been attended to. There had been a number of visitors in the Colony, who had been in various other colonies in different parts of the world, and they had all told him that in none of these colonies had they seen the roads in such good order as they were here at the present moment. The hon. gentleman entertained one opinion, and he representing the Government, entertained another. That gentleman was entitled to entertain such an opinion, and in a proper way might urge it upon them when the vote for Roads and Bridges came on. Mr. Bowdler's attention was called to the matter, and that officer had done all in his power to put the roads and bridges to a proper state.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

The Hon. F. B. JOHNSON asked "whether the final instructions have been received from the Colonial Office with regard to the proposed extension of water supply?" He said it was almost necessary that he should make some observations about the matter, as his Excellency had answered the question in part, and some explanation was necessary.

His Excellency said that the answer he should give to the question was that the final instructions had not been received from the Colonial Office, since the sanitation of the Colony had been taken up by Mr. Chadwick, and until his report was considered by the Government, they could hardly expect to see the matter finally settled.

THE EDUCATION COMMISSION.

The Hon. F. B. JOHNSON then asked why the sittings of the Education Commission, nominated on the 27th August, 1880, have been suspended, and when they will be resumed?

His Excellency said the practice had been for the Chairman to call the meetings. He had the honour of appointing the Commissioners, and Dr. Stewart was the Chairman.

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON said a resolution was passed in September that the Commission should meet every Saturday. Whose fault it was that no meetings had been called lately he did not know.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER said it was supposed Dr. Stewart was Chairman of the Commission as Colonial Secretary *ex-officio*. It might possibly be that reason that no meeting had been held subsequently. He (the speaker) as Acting Colonial Secretary, presided at one meeting at Dr. Stewart's request. In the next place the meetings were postponed in order that a large mass of the reports from the school masters might be printed.

His Excellency said he had received no communication on the subject from Mr. Stewart. The moment the change took place in the Colonial Secretary's Office he took steps to appoint him a member of the Commission, but he had already been an *ex-officio* member—but no communication had been received as to the question of chairmanship. What he would suggest was that, as usual, the Committee appoint their own chairman and proceed as quickly as possible to business.

THE POINT OF ORDER.
Hon. F. B. JOHNSON—The point of order to which I wish to refer relates to the order of our proceeding to-day. On the 4th instant, Saturday last, I gave notice to the Council of a resolution I should move at to-day's meeting.

His Excellency—The hon. member was informed by the Clerk of Council that the motion to which he refers was irregular and out of order and could not be placed on the Order Book. That was in accordance with Parliamentary precedent. A motion which, owing to its irregularity or deviation from order, could not be put to the Council is a motion that cannot be entered in the Order Book, nor, for very obvious reasons, can any discussion upon that motion be indulged in or allowed. As regards the precedents at home, I need not refer to them; you are all familiar with what has taken place; but here in this Colony, we have a precedent to which I may briefly refer. It was a case which occurred some years ago in which a similar notice of motion was given. Without entering into details, I may say the notice of motion to which the hon. member refers, I see was in the morning paper. Here it is at full length. I would venture to point out that the hon. member, having been sent to the papers by the hon. member, well that is, I don't say out of order, but it is not quite in accordance with the decorum of the Council. It is not usual for an hon. member to send to the papers a paragraph headed "Legislative Council," and then give the motion he intends moving. The fact is, as the speaker of the House of Commons is entrusted with the delicate task of seeing no notice appears which is out of order, so the Governor is entrusted with the same duty here, and one who occupied this chair years ago, I think it was in 1859, found it necessary to decline to allow a notice of motion to be put—fortunately there are very few precedents of any motion of this kind, and it took

us some time to discover if any such motion had ever been brought forward before. It was discussed by the Clerk of Council. It was a motion moving for papers where some member of Council, or some one else, had addressed a letter to the Secretary of State, and before the reply of the Secretary of State was received, any attempt to move for the production of the papers was held to be out of order, and the Lieut. Governor who was then in the chair declined to let the motion be put, and his proceedings met with the sanction of the Secretary of State.

Without touching upon the matter here, you all see what is in the papers—I may say the motion the hon. member sent to the Clerk of Council referred to a series of papers which he himself had transmitted, through the Governor, to the Secretary of State. The hon. member had exercised his undoubted right of communicating with the Secretary of State, of appealing to the decision of the Secretary of State. It is the right of every member of this Council and of every one in this Colony to appeal to the Secretary of State, but when that appeal is made, and before the Secretary of State decides upon it, the Secretary of State as it were representing the Crown, no one can move for those papers, or have an debate or discussion upon the subject. To move for a series of documents which could not be produced without the consent of the Crown being signified would be irregular and out of order. The words in May's Parliamentary Practice are "a motion will be irregular and out of order which requires the assent of the Crown which the whole of the correspondence is now before the Secretary of State. To an hon. member addressed three letters, at different dates, to the Earl of Kimberley, with a vast number of enclosures. All these papers have duly been sent forward to Lord Kimberley. Two other gentlemen concerned also thought fit to address the Earl of Kimberley. One of them wrote two letters to the noble Lord, and the other wrote one. These papers have all gone to the Earl of Kimberley. For my part I think the hon. member would have acted more wisely in not endeavouring to commit what turns out to be an irregularity and breach of order, but in awaiting the decision of the high official to whom he had appealed. The Earl of Kimberley is a statesman, of great experience in Colonial affairs. He has before him in his office the correspondence for this Colony of the year 1859, in which somewhat similar personal matters are referred to. He has had great experience of the Colonies, and for my part I have the most entire confidence in the decision which he will give upon the case submitted by the hon. member. It would be improper to permit any one whatever at the Council table to take a course the effect of which would be endeavouring to appeal from a decision (absolutely not given) by the Secretary of State to some other tribunal. It may be said, and I know a matter of fact it has been said, that the motion contemplated on this occasion would probably not have met with a second and there would have been no inconvenience, because it would have fallen to the ground. But I am bound to follow the precedents I find in my office for my guidance, and finding that in the case of a notice of motion of a similar character the Lieutenant-Governor then in charge of the Government refused to allow such a motion to be put, I feel it my duty to follow that precedent, which is not only a wise precedent in this Colony, but the practice in England.

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON—Would you kindly favour me with the precedents to which you refer, sir? With regard to the English precedents which you alluded to it appears to me they have no force whatever with regard to refusing to place my motion on the Order Book. But I have no wish to carry on a discussion on that point, but I ask your Excellency to take note I record my protest against a refusal to put on the notice paper notice of motion which I made in due form in accordance with the standing orders. I wish also to ask your Excellency whether it be not the case that the instructions to the Governor with regard to notice of motion is not that any member may move any motion in this Council which he puts in due form on the Order Book.

His Excellency—If the hon. member asks whether any question, if regular in order, can be put, certainly it can; but if the means that a question is irregular and out of order can be put, the answer is that it cannot. With reference to the question of a protest I take the opportunity of mentioning that the Secretary of State expressed the opinion that the member in question in the year 1859 acted very wrongly in using the book of this Council for entering a protest on a subject in which he discussed the point which it would have been irregular to discuss in public Council, and, furthermore, he went on to say, "it was still more undesirable if it is true that the hon. member communicated his protest to the hon. member, thereby aggravating the tendency to personal controversy which has been so detrimental to the colony." Therefore I have only to advise the hon. gentleman to await the decision of the Secretary of State, not to endeavour to force a motion that he must know is out of order upon the attention of what is, I believe, a most unwilling Council.

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON again rose.

His Excellency—The question had better be at an end.

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON—Does your Excellency refuse to record my protest?

His Excellency—I have read what was written about the former. If the hon. member chooses to send in a protest to the Clerk of Council, the usual course is that the Clerk submits it to the Governor, and if it be sent in I shall give it my favorable consideration, with great anxiety to have any protest inserted in the book of the Council, but bearing in mind the precedent established by the Secretary of State I can only say as long as the Crown has not decided upon this matter, no attempt can be fairly made by any member of Council to bring a question undecided by the Secretary of State under the notice of Council.

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON—I still desire to give notice of my protest, which I shall make within three days in accordance with the standing orders.

Hon. P. RYRIE—I hope this refusal of a protest may not be going back to old times. I should regret exceedingly anything of that kind. I have seen something of the kind even in my history. I have never known a protest refused or objected to by the President of Council.

His Excellency—I remember the case to which my hon. friend refers, that is, I have seen it. It was one in which a protest made by my hon. friend was objected to, and I may say to my hon. friend, Mr. Ryrie, I think the protest ought to have been received. I entertain no doubt whatever about it. The matter at present is in this position, that the hon. member has given notice of his intention to lodge a protest; until that protest is actually sent, and until I can ascertain how far it is consistent with the views expressed by the Secretary of State with regard to a former protest, I cannot express any opinion upon it. My hon. friend Mr. Ryrie will bear in mind the difference between the protest he lodged, which was strictly pertinent to the business before the Council—as far as I remember it referred to the estimates and to that protest objection was then taken by Mr. Smith, the Acting Colonial Secretary, I think, but at all events I have no doubt my hon. friend was right in making the protest, and it was in proper form; but this is a different matter as my hon. friend can see, and all I can say is, to the best of my judgment, ascertain how far I would be justified in giving the widest

possible interpretation to the dispatch of the Secretary of State on the subject.

Hon. F. B. JOHNSON—Your Excellency will not fail to recollect the subject was whether or not a meeting of the Council should be held.

His Excellency—The hon. member cannot go into that. As a matter of fact the documents all of which he sent to the Secretary of State for the decision of the Secretary of State.

FINANCE.
The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the approval of sundry small payments in excess of the estimates of 1881 which had been passed by the Finance Committee.—Passed.

PAPERS.
His Excellency—I lay on the table some dispatches in addition to those on Emigration one relating to the Estimates, the Normal School, the Central School, and some others that I have been pressing forward; they are being printed, and the moment they are ready they will be circulated.

His Excellency then adjourned the Council until half-past two o'clock this (Wednesday) afternoon, when the Tramways Bill will be taken into consideration.

VICE-ADMIRAL G. O. WILLES, C.B., will proceed in the dispatch-boat *Vigilant*, Lieutenant-Commander Lindsay, to Canton on Saturday.

No inquest will be held on the body of the late Mr. T. Mart, a medical examination having shown that death resulted from apoplexy.

A TELEGRAM dated London, the 6th inst., states that the programme of the new Egyptian Ministry scrupulously respects international obligations, debt and budget engagements.

REAR-ADMIRAL DUPERRÉ paid a visit this morning to the Italian corvette *Garibaldi*, Captain Enrico Morin, receiving the usual salute on taking his departure from the vessel.

The British ship *Hindostan* has left the Cosmopolitan Dock, making room for the steamers *Danube* and *Jelano*. The *Andanao* went to Kowloon Docks this afternoon.

We are given to understand, says the *Amoy Gazette*, that His Excellency Ts'eh, Fatai, is shortly expected here from Formosa in one of the Arsenal gun-vessels, en route to Foochow.

We would remind our readers that the Paris Opera Bouffe Company will appear at the City Hall this evening in Hervé's well-known Comic Opera *L'Éclat Crû*. This will be the company's last appearance in Hongkong.

The *Wivern*, an ironclad turret-ship, in charge of Commander Edward F. Day, arrived at her old moorings off the Naval Yard this afternoon. The *Wivern* having had the crew of the *Pegasus* turned over to her temporarily, has been on a cruise to Canton and Macao.

The *Iron Duke*, 14, Captain Richard E. Tracey (flagship of Vice-Admiral G. O. Willes, C.B.), will proceed to sea on Saturday to expend her ironclad ammunition at target practice. The *Iron Duke* will afterwards be taken on a cruise up the Canton river, and anchor off the Bogue Forts, where she will remain ten days.

The meeting of the Legislative Council, adjourned from yesterday, was resumed this afternoon when the Council went into full Committee on the Tramways Bill. The Council reported progress at Section 12, and adjourned at half-past four until 2.30 to-morrow, sections 17 to 21 being reserved for further consideration.

THE "JEANNETTE" DISASTER.

We take the following particulars relating to the loss of the *Jeannette* from the London Standard:—

WASHINGTON, December 22.
The Secretary of the Navy has sent a telegram to Mr. Melville, at Irkutsk, telling him to spare no expense to secure the safety of the missing men, or to ensure proper care in the transportation to Europe of those already found.

BERLIN, December 23.
The telegrams which have been published on the fate of the *Jeannette* evoke the greatest sympathy throughout Germany, and further details are eagerly awaited. They are expected to bring touching records of the dangers surmounted, and of the sufferings and sacrifices of the survivors.

The following telegram was received at the London office of the *New York Herald* yesterday morning:—

"Irkutsk, December 21, 2.5 p.m.
"The *Jeannette* crushed by ice; latitude 77.15 north, longitude 137. With boats, and sledges made a good retreat to 50 miles north-west of Lena River, when three boats were separated in a gale."

"The whale boat, charge of Chief Engineer Melville, entered the east mouth of the Lena River September 17, stopped by ice in the river. Found a native village, and as soon as the river closed, put myself in communication with Commandant at Bolocma."

"On Oct. 20 heard that the first cutter, containing Lieut. De Long, Doctor Ambler, and 12 others, landed at the north mouth of the Lena."

"The Commandant at Bolocma sent instant relief to whaleboat party, who are all well. Nindemand and Naros arrived at Bolocma on October 29, for relief for the first cutter, all of whom are in good condition, and in danger of starvation; all badly frozen."

"Commandant at Bolocma has sent native scouts to look for them; will urge vigorous and constant search until found."

"The second cutter not yet heard from."

"Telegraph money for instant use to Irkutsk and Jakutsk."

"List of people in boats—First Cutter.—Lieut. De Long, Dr. Ambler, Collins, Nindemand, Naros, Enikson, Kach, Dressler, Gortz, Lee, Iverson, Boyd, Alexia, Ah Lam."

"Second Cutter.—Lieut. Chief Danbar, sweetman, Warren, Johnson, star, sherwell, Kuhnner, Cole, Bartlett, Newcomb, Leach, Sandbach, Wilson, Manson, Iniga, Long Sing."

"Signed 'GEORGE MELVILLE Chief Engineer.'"

STEAMERS EXPECTED.
The steamer *Euphrates* left Singapore on the 4th instant, and may be expected here on or about the 12th instant.

The steamer *Gleniffer* left Singapore on the 5th instant, and may be expected here on or about the 13th instant.

The steamer *Maah* left Sydney for Hongkong, 4th Ports on Call, on the 2nd instant, and is due here on or about the 28th instant.

Intimations.

NOTIFICATION.

A COPY of the JURY List for 1882 is posted at SUPREME COURT HOUSE for Inspection. Notice of any Inaccuracies, Omissions, Objections, &c., must be given to the Registrar on or before 14th February, 1882, in accordance with the Provisions of Section 8 of Ordinance No. 11 of 1864.

It is further notified that no person whose name is on the List as a Juror will be excused from Service on the ground of any exemption to which he may be entitled, unless such exemption shall have been claimed and established, or such want of qualification duly proved at or before the time above specified.

C. F. A. SANGSTER,
Acting Registrar.

Supreme Court,
Hongkong, 1st February, 1882. [82]
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Hongkong, 4th February, 1882. [83]

HONGKONG TIMBER YARD, WANCHAI.</

